



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FACT SHEET

MAYOR'S NEW FLOOD CONTROL PLAN SETS STAGE FOR ENDING CHRONIC FLOOD DAMAGE IN CITY

NEW PLAN MAKES CITY ELIGIBLE FOR PROJECT FUNDING FROM FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Mayor Jerry Sanders is leveraging existing grant funding to help end repeated damage to properties in the City's flood prone areas. The Mayor has directed staff to complete the City's long-awaited Flood Mitigation Plan as part of his effort to gain additional funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The City is using grant funding provided last year from FEMA to complete the plan, the last step in meeting San Diego's requirements under the Federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

NEW PLAN WILL MAKE CITY ELIGIBLE FOR MORE FEMA FUNDING

Completing the new plan is a requirement for receiving future federal money to build flood mitigation projects in the City. The City's plan will augment the multi-jurisdictional hazard management plan prepared by local agencies and the County of San Diego's Office of Emergency Services. The plan will assist FEMA in allocating future funding to appropriate and necessary flood mitigation projects throughout San Diego.

The new plan will identify specific risks and possible mitigation efforts in the City's three most vulnerable flood zones – Mission Valley, La Jolla and the City portion of the Tijuana River Valley. Each of these areas has sustained considerable and repeated damage from flooding over many years.

In addition, the new plan will address options for reducing flood hazards for properties that sustain repetitive losses and are insured under the National Flood Insurance Program. It will give the City the information it needs to request federal funding for specific projects aimed at preventing further losses in these areas.

PUBLIC INPUT AND EDUCATION AT FOREFRONT OF MAYOR'S EFFORT

As part of the Mayor's effort, the City will be holding a series of workshops to solicit input from the public affected by flooding throughout the city. The workshops will also be used to provide the public with a risk analysis and description of potential flood hazards identified as part of the planning effort. Comments raised during the workshop sessions will be included as part of the final plan report filed with the County's Office of Emergency Services and FEMA.

The workshops are scheduled for the following locations and times:

MISSION VALLEY	February 28, 2007 - 6:00-7:30pm Mission Valley Branch Library 2123 Fenton Parkway San Diego, CA 92108-4739 (858) 573-5007
SAN YSIDRO	March 1, 2007 - 6:00-7:30pm San Ysidro Community Service Center 663 E. San Ysidro Blvd. San Diego, CA 92173 (619) 424-0230
LA JOLLA	March 5, 2007 - 6:00-7:30pm La Jolla/Riford Branch Library 7555 Draper Avenue La Jolla, CA 92037-4802 (858) 552-1657

CITY PROVIDES ACCESS TO FLOOD MITIGATION INFORMATION

As part of his continuing effort to provide all San Diegans with important information about disaster preparedness, Mayor Sanders has posted a new update page for flood mitigation planning effort on the City's website. The website address listed below includes contract information for City staff involved in the planning effort and links to additional details about FEMA's Mitigation Planning Program and the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

The information can be found at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/engineering-cip/projectsprograms/floodmitigation.shtml>